

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01

PRS-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OPR-02 /100 W
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R 031600Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3955

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB ENRG PINT EC

SUBJ: GOVERNMENT INTERVENES IN OIL REFINERY STRIKE

1. UNITS OF ARMED FORCES OCCUPIED ALL INSTALLATIONS, INCLUDING OIL REFINERY, OF ANGOL-ECUADORIAN OILFIELDS LTDA. ON JUNE 2 TO INSURE CONTINUED OPERATIONS AND PREVENT HALT PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF GASOLINE BY STRIKE CALLED BY ANGLO WORKERS. IN STRONGLY-WORDED BROADSIDE PUBLISHED IN GUAYAQUIL PRESS, GOVERNMENT CONDEMNED STRIKE AS ILLEGAL AND ARBITRARY. ORDER AUTHORIZING MILITARY INTERVENTION CALLS FOR IMPRISONMENT AND FINES FOR THOSE IMPEDING NORMAL OPERATIONS OF ANGLO INSTALLATIONS. STRIKE HAS HAD LITTLE EFFECT THUS FAR AS MOST WORKERS ON THE JOB UNDER MILITARY SUPERVISION.

2. ANGLO, OPERATING IN ECUADOR FOR FIFTY YEARS, SCHEDULED TURN OVER INSTALLATIONS TO CEPE, STATE PETROLEUM COMPANY, IN JANUARY , 1976. LABOR PROBLEMS BREWING SINCE MARCH, 1974 WHEN ANGLO BEGAN NEGOTIATIONS WITH WORKERS TO

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REACH AGREEMENT ON CEPE TRANSFER. LEADERS OF ANGLO'S

600 WORKERS HAVE DEMANDED SEVERANCE PAY FOR ALL EMPLOYEES, EVEN THOSE WHO WILL CONTINUE WORKING AT FACILITIES WHEN THEY BECOME PROPERTY OF GOE. WORKERS NOT ENTITLED TO SUCH BENEFITS UNDER LABOR CODE OR CONTRACT WITH ANGLO. STRIKE RESULT OF INABILITY REACH AGREEMENT IN SPITE OF LENGTHY BARGAINING SESSIONS AND NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS BY GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST IN REACHING AMICABLE SETTLEMENT.

3. GOVERNMENT'S PROMPT AND FIRM ACTION SHOULD INSURE UNINTERRUPTED GASOLINE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION AND EVENTUAL TRANQUIL TURNOVER OF INSTALLATIONS FROM ANGLO TO CEPE. STRIKE LEADERS HAVE GENERATED LITTLE LOCAL SUPPORT AND ARE REGARDED AS ILLEGALLY ATTEMPTING TO USE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AS MEANS OBTAIN PERSONAL FINANCIAL WINDFALL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, INTERVENTION, LABOR STRIKES, REFINERIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GUAYAQ00930
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750193-1213
From: GUAYAQUIL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750687/aaaadbmj.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOVERNMENT INTERVENES IN OIL REFINERY STRIKE
TAGS: ELAB, ENRG, PINT, EC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006